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LETTER DATED 7 SEPTEMBER 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ARMENIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a statement issued today by Mr. Robert Kocharian, the Chairman of the State Defence Committee of Nagorny Karabakh.

I should be grateful if you would circulate the statement as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Alexander ARZOUMANIAN
Permanent Representative

Annex

[Original: Russian]

Statement issued on 7 September 1993 by the Chairman of the State Defence Committee of the Nagorny Karabakh Republic, Mr. R. Kocharian

The stabilization of the political situation in Azerbaijan that has begun to take place creates favourable conditions for practical steps towards a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

Making every effort to promote the peace process, the leadership of the Nagorny Karabakh Republic has given an order for the withdrawal of units of the Defence Force from the town of Kubatly and a number of adjacent villages, and the withdrawal has already taken place.

The Nagorny Karabakh Republic makes no claim to Azerbaijani territory; the actions of the Nagorny Karabakh Defence Force are exclusively countermeasures, and are dictated only by considerations relating to the security of the Republic's population.

The leadership of the Nagorny Karabakh Republic attaches great importance to the dialogue with Azerbaijan that has been initiated and to the forthcoming meeting of the Minsk Group in Moscow, and confirms once again its readiness to review the whole range of questions relating to a peaceful settlement of the Nagorny Karabakh problem, and in the first place the issues of a cease-fire and the withdrawal of troops from the territories captured.

We express the hope that the authorities in Azerbaijan are also ready to take practical steps towards the effective conduct of the peace process.